



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

ISSN 1520-6114

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 18, 2003
VOL. 54 NO. 51

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



Early week prices were lower on all sizes. As the week progressed prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand ranged light to very good. Supplies were in close balance to adequate. Breaking stock prices were unchanged with checks and undergrades lower. Demand was light and selective with offerings adequate to fully adequate. Schedules full-time. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady. Light type fowl prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate with demand seasonally active. Removal prices were steady at 4.5 to 12.5 cents per head.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand was moderate to very good where features for the upcoming holiday were in place. Food service movement was generally moderate. Supplies were adequate to in close balance. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was light and selective with offerings adequate to fully adequate. Schedule full-time. Floor stocks fully adequate. Trade sentiment barely steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	89-98	92-95
LARGE	88-96	89-94
MEDIUM	69-77	72-74

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,
Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices continued unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was steady. Demand ranged moderate to good as retail outlets prepared for upcoming holiday shoppers. Large dozen eggs were on special for \$1.29. Supplies were adequate to instances available. Breaking stock supplies were adequate to fully adequate for the light demand. Offerings of spent fowl were at least adequate for the fair to moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	95-109	98-102
LARGE	91-106	96-100
MEDIUM	72-87	77-79

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ,
Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL Dec 12, 2003

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	112.00	110.00	90.00
SOUTHEAST	112.50	110.50	90.00
MIDWEST	105.50	103.50	87.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	112.50	111.50	91.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	110.69	108.98	89.71

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN

	12-16-03	12-09-03	12-17-02
Large	69-73	81-85	46-50
Medium	50-54	64-68	28-32

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-DEC 15, 2003 STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/ (30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		Northeast		No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	5-Area Pacific
Jumbo	Curr Wk	11.9	17.9	11.7	16.3	13.1	70.9
	Change	1.9	3.0	1.2	0.9	-0.3	10%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	27.9	65.7	14.7	26.4	30.1	164.8
	Change	5.0	-17.7	-0.9	2.6	-3.9	-8%
Large	Curr Wk	45.8	146.9	99.8	101.8	122.7	517.0
	Change	3.0	-11.9	-9.2	-4.2	3.8	-3%
Medium	Curr Wk	15.4	46.1	13.5	20.4	36.4	131.8
	Change	-1.4	-8.1	-1.0	-1.1	-3.5	-10%
Small	Curr Wk	2.6	5.0	3.3	6.6	5.7	23.2
	Change	-0.5	-0.5	-1.0	1.3	0.3	-1%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.8	24.9	10.0	16.1	6.3	62.1
	Change	0.4	2.8	0.0	-0.4	-0.3	4%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	27.9	33.0	21.8	35.6	31.8	150.1
	Change	7.1	-5.1	-2.7	-7.7	2.9	-4%
Total	Curr Wk	136.3	339.5	174.8	223.2	246.1	1,119.9
	Percent Change	13%	-10%	-7%	-4%	0%	-4%
TOTAL		Number of Cases		Percent Change		Number of Cooperators	

Shell Egg	1,119.9	-4%	171
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	232.0	5%	36

Total Shell Egg	1,351.9	-3%	207
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1/Information is supplied by a universe of 171 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

Processed Eggs: Weekly Eggs Processed Under Federal Inspection**WEEK ENDING 13-DEC-03**

	(LBS IN THOUSANDS)		(EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)			
	CASES	LIQUID	LIQUID	LIQUID	DRIED	INED
	BROKEN	WHOLE	WHITE	YOLK		
CW	1,189,328	30,302	10,280	5,552	2,033	4,331
PW	1,199,334	30,491	10,516	5,729	1,975	4,299
LY	1,194,289	29,017	10,564	5,760	2,471	4,213
% CHG PWK	-1	-1	-2	-3	3	1
% CHG LY	0	4	-3	-4	-18	3
2003	58,381,713	1,435,821	525,756	286,145	114,238	208,964
2002	60,211,345	1,409,557	574,108	308,510	138,524	213,819
% CHG YTD	-3	2	-8	-7	-18	-2

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS	LAST
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -	WEEK	WEEK	YEAR
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.43	42.55	41.49
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.79	38.97	37.96

BROILER HATCHERY

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set in		Broiler Chicks Placed	
	19 Selected States	19 Selected States	19 Selected States	19 Selected States
	Dec 06	Dec 13	Dec 06	Dec 13
	Thousand			
AL	29,379	29,560	21,822	21,878
AR	*30,571	30,992	*22,786	23,280
DE	3,828	3,805	4,892	4,689
FL	1,354	1,354	*1,644	1,420
GA	*31,664	33,269	*25,137	24,645
KY	6,965	6,768	*5,432	5,849
LA	3,832	3,847	3,868	3,933
MD	8,763	8,868	5,299	5,942
MS	19,237	19,396	15,738	15,804
NC	16,791	17,881	14,550	14,383
OK	6,358	6,371	5,858	5,512
PA	*3,723	3,627	*2,619	2,771
SC	3,794	3,861	4,273	3,842
TX	14,151	13,879	12,030	12,292
VA	6,438	6,349	5,822	5,285
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*16,822	16,591	*16,000	15,255
19 State Total	*203,670	206,418	*167,770	166,780
Previous Year Total	199,994	203,251	161,841	163,147
Pct. of Prev. Year	102	102	104	102

* Revised

Broiler/Fryer: Weekly Fryers Available for Marketing Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 23-Jan-04 is estimated at 154.0 million head. This compares to 152.4 million head the previous week and to 152.9 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 145.9 million head and the composite weighted average price was 60.05 cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES - WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/11/03-12/17/03

	SE	NE	MW	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST
GNR W 1	73.80	78.40	74.00	76.22
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—
GNR W 3	—	60.00	—	—
GNR BR XL	—	—	111.00	—
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—
GL W J	—	—	88.50	90.00
GL W XL	—	91.00	85.50	86.51
GL W LG	—	90.23	82.60	85.82
GL W MD	72.00	67.78	63.08	64.58
GL W SM	—	—	51.50	53.00
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	71.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 13-Dec-03

SELECTED	CW	PW	PCT CHG	
CONSUMING CENTERS	THOUSANDS		PW	LY
ATLANTA	28.6	30.0	-5	9
BOSTON	3.9	3.8	3	26
CHICAGO	72.2	60.6	19	10
DETROIT	36.9	26.5	39	-3
KANSAS CITY	5.7	4.0	43	36
LOS ANGELES	101.1	99.0	2	-6
NEW ORLEANS	8.7	8.7	0	-38
NEW YORK	31.9	27.2	17	-12
ST. LOUIS	21.5	17.2	25	-3
SAN FRANCISCO	24.8	22.4	11	2
TOTAL	335.3	299.4	12	-2
4 WK MVG AVG				

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 13-Dec-2003

	YOUNG	YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS	
	-----THOUSANDS-----			
HEAD	2,132	2,805	35	1
AVG WT	15.44	35.28	24.84	52.33
LAST WEEK	1,924	2,841	69	1
SAME WK YR AGO	2,089	2,780	51	20
AVG WT	15.35	36.90	26.02	25.63
TO-DATE/2003	94,729	137,290	3,125	605
TO-DATE/2002	93,276	138,355	2,682	660

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

Week ending 13-Dec-2003						
(Preliminary) (Released 1:00 Eastern Time)						
—YOUNG TURKEYS—			OLD		TOTAL TURKEYS	
THOUSAND	PCT CHG	AVG	BANDED	HEAD-	AVG	
HEAD	PW	LIVE WT	-THOUSAND	HEAD-	LIVE WT	
N EAST	947	10	20.94	(A)	948	20.94
SATL	771	-9	29.98	(A)	771	29.98
N CENT	2,078	-4	31.76	(A)	2,078	31.76
S CENT	558	9	19.77	(A)	558	19.77
WEST	618	38	20.71	(A)	618	20.71
U.S. TOTAL	4,972 (B)	3	26.71	1	4,973	26.71

TO-DATE
2003 235,144 (B) 605 235,749TO-DATE
2002 234,313 (B) 660 234,973

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 35,000 for the year 3,125,000; last year to date 2,682,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 13-Dec-03

(PRELIMINARY)	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	153,501	1,379	1,292	2,671	453
AVG WT	5.23	3.40	8.05	5.65	6.62
LAST WEEK	154,912	1,399	1,437	2,836	394
SAME WK YR AGO	154,894	1,829	1,342	3,171	461
AVG WT	5.09	3.47	7.95	5.37	6.80
TO-DATE/2003	7,664,771	70,637	69,802	140,439	20,652
TO-DATE/2002	7,725,795	86,691	70,695	157,386	20,817

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 150.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 155.4 million head or 5.2 million head more than or 103% of estimated fryers available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 20-Dec-03

CLASS	Current Week 12/20/03(1)	Previous Week 12/13/03
-----THOUSAND HEAD-----		
BRO-FRY	169,762(2)	161,100
LT HENS	1,461	1,501
HVY HENS	1,510	1,337
TOTAL	172,733	163,938

(1) ESTIMATED

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 20-Dec-03 is 147.8 million head compared to 154.7 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 170.1 million head or 22.3 million more than estimated available. For week of 27-Dec-03 the estimated available is 145.8 million head.

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
NOVEMBER 8	160.0	154.5	104%	5.04
15	159.0	151.7	105%	5.30
22	153.1	149.1	103%	5.25
29	119.8	149.6	80%	5.35
DECEMBER 6	156.8	150.2	104%	5.45
13	155.4	150.2	103%	5.23
YEAR TO DATE	7758.0	7819.8	99%	
DECEMBER 20		147.8		
27		145.8		

READY-TO-COOK POULTRY BROILER/FRYERS

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers f.o.b. and Delivered to First Receivers at major market areas week of 12/15/03-12/19/03 (cents per lb.)

	U.S. GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
	MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG	LDS
Chicago	56.00-59.00	59.22	38	61.30	76
Los Angeles	74.00	72.35	65	72.58	123
New York	60.00-62.00	61.36	28	62.93	63

COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

	Change from			
	15-Dec-03	8-Dec-03	8-Dec-03	16-Dec-02
	65.77	-0.24	66.01	53.89
NUMBER OF LOADS	588			

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/ 8-16 LB HENS	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	LBS (000)
EASTERN REGION 3/	63-68	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-67	67	67.00	20
WESTERN REGION 5/	63-69	-	-	-

16-24 LB TOMS

EASTERN REGION	58-59	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	57-58	58	58.00	10
WESTERN REGION	58-60	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F.

2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days.

3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting.

4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting.

5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)

SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 12/15/03	3,343	111,389	44,291
AM 12/01/03	3,395	110,555	45,473
CHG	-52	834	-1182
PCT CHG	-2%	1%	-3%

HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE Final Price, Generally for slaughter the week of 15-Dec-03

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD. AVG
Southeast (1)	6-9 CENTS/LB.	8.5-9	8.60
Southeast (2)	TFEWR		
South Central(1)	6.25-11.5 CENTS/LB.	8.75-9.25	8.98

(1) At Farm Buyer Loading (2) At Farm Producer Loading

LIGHT TYPE 12-Dec-03 Cents per Head, generally for removal within the next 10 days (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern		
Removal Cost	0-12	10-11
So. Central		
Removal Cost	Too Few To Report	
No. Central		
Removal Cost	4.5-12.5	10-12.25

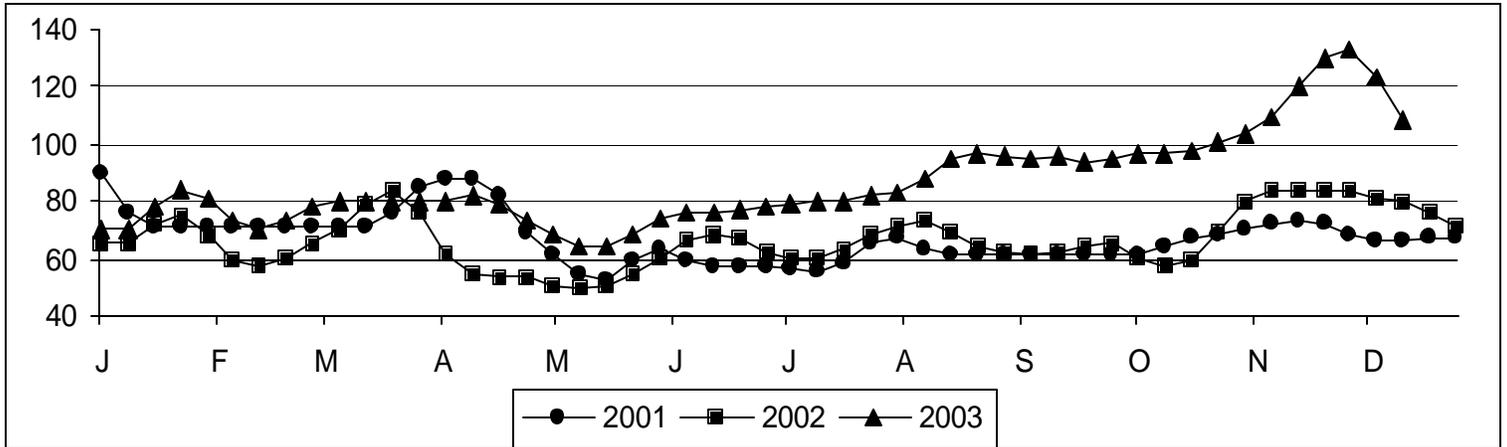
COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

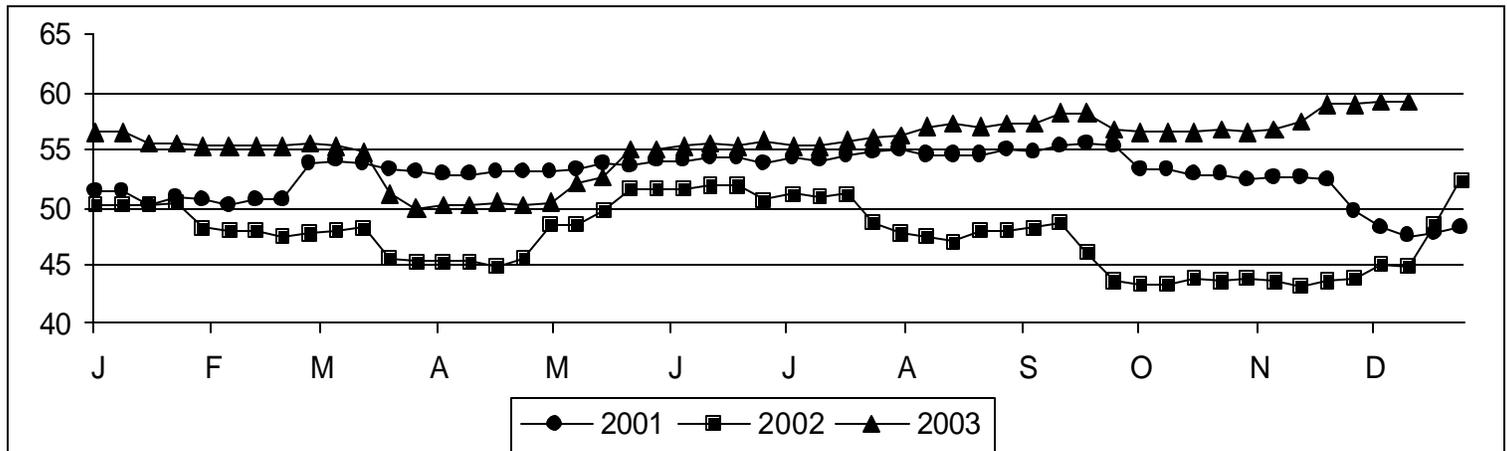
W/E 13-Dec-03

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW LY	
N. ATLANTIC	222.3	0	-9
E.N. CENTRAL	563.8	4	2
W.N. CENTRAL	302.2	6	4
S. ATLANTIC	191.6	2	0
S. CENTRAL	116.2	0	21
WEST	193.1	7	0
TOTAL	1589.2	4	1
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		86	86

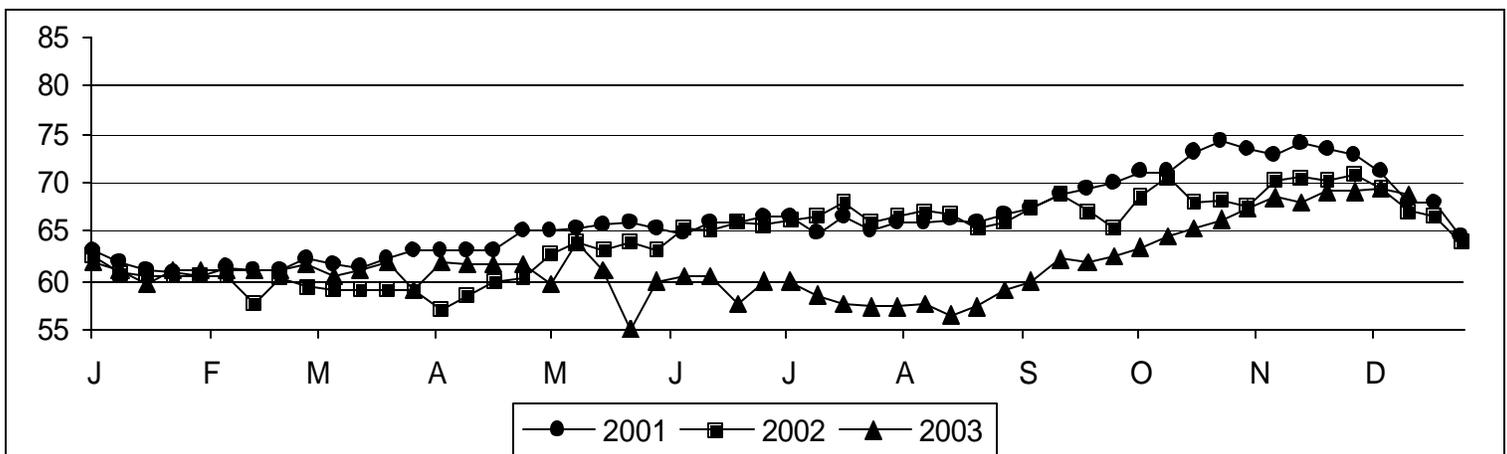
New York Large Weekly Average Price
Cents per Dozen



Chicago Broiler/Fryer Weighted Average Prices
Cents per Pound



Eastern Region Weekly Average Prices For 8-16 LB Hen Turkeys
Cents per Pound



Note: Some Weeks' Average Prices are Based on Offers Only

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